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Sheraton, James Paterson

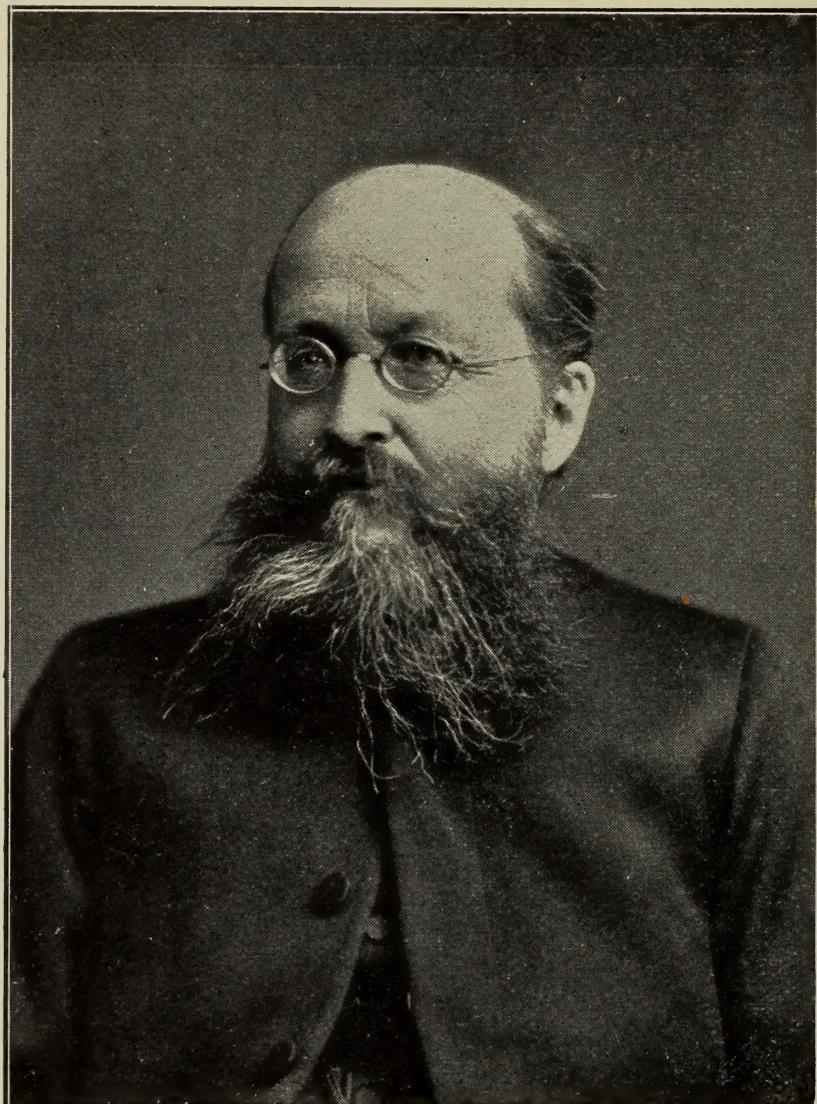
In Memoriam



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Rev. J. P. Sheraton, M.A., B.D., LL.D.

Ob. January 24, 1906—Aet. 64
1841—1906



REV. CANON SHERATON, D.D., LL.D.

Late Principal of Wycliffe College
Toronto

Wycliffe College
TORONTO

In Memoriam

REV. J. P. SHERATON, M.A., D.D., LL.D.

First Principal of Wycliffe College
and
Honorary Canon of St. Alban's Cathedral

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PRINCIPAL OF WYCLIFFE COLLEGE, TORONTO

On the 24th day of January, 1906, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, there passed to his reward James Paterson Sheraton, first Principal of Wycliffe College, Toronto. A few weeks previous to his death he had an attack of illness which took the form of partial paralysis. The recuperative powers of his delicate frame were insufficient to enable him to rally, and he passed quietly away at his residence adjoining the College.

The late Principal was born in St. John, N.B., Nov. 29th, 1841. His father was a merchant. His maternal grandfather was the late James Paterson, LL.D., of the University of Glasgow, and who for more than fifty years was principal of the St. John Grammar School. Dr. Paterson was in his time among the most distinguished scholars in the Maritime Provinces, and the late Principal of Wycliffe owes to him, as his first tutor, much of his later success as a student and teacher. Owing to the instruction of his grandfather James Sheraton was able to enter the Grammar school at the age of seven. Dr. Paterson was also a devotee of the physical sciences, and a distinguished Orientalist, and from him his grandson received instruction in science and Hebrew before entering the Grammar school. Mr. Sheraton took his arts degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1861, with honors in natural science and classics. He was also the Douglas gold medalist of his year. The two years following he spent partly in private study, under the direction of the late Bishop Medley, of Fredericton, and partly in the University of King's College, Nova Scotia. In December, 1864, he was admitted to the diaconate, and the following December was ordained a presbyter. For the next thirteen years he labored largely in the home mission work of New Brunswick, in the parishes of Wilford, Shedaic, and Petersville, and in Pictou, N.S., when he succeeded Rev. T. C. DesBarres, who,

coming to Ontario, eventually became Rector of St. Paul's Church, Toronto.

About the year 1876, some of the prominent laymen of the Church of England in Ontario determined to organize a Divinity School for the education of men for the ministry in the Church of England, with distinctive Evangelical teaching. This was felt to be a necessity, and the result has proved the wisdom of the self-denying labours and generous gifts of these men and of those who have followed them in continued support of the effort then made. It was thought also that the candidates should receive their general education at the Provincial rather than at a denominational University. The wisdom of this course has been proved by subsequent events, and by the fact that the Colleges of the other denominations, as well as the earliest Church of England school of learning, have followed the example thus set by the founders of Wycliffe. In 1877, therefore, this School was founded and was from its inception placed in affiliation with the University of Toronto. It began its work in a very humble way in a room in the school-house of St. James' Cathedral Church in Toronto, with two pupils.

Of this College the subject of this sketch became the first Principal in 1877. This position he held until his death. During this period, besides his duties as Principal, he occupied the chairs of dogmatic theology, and of the literature and exegesis of the New Testament. The present position of the College, and its handsome and commodious building in the University grounds, with its present staff of five Professors and teachers and its fifty students, is sufficient evidence of the learning and ability of the great theologian, the brilliant scholar, the successful teacher and the kindly administrator.

In 1883 the degree of D.D., honoris causa, was conferred upon Dr. Sheraton by Queen's University. In 1889 he was appointed Honorary Canon of St. Alban's Cathedral by the Bishop of Toronto. Amongst other public positions which he occupied he was a director of Bishop Ridley College at St. Catharines; President of the Toronto branch of the Lord's

Day Alliance, Vice-President of the Evangelical Alliance, and a Vice-President of the Upper Canada Bible Society. He was also one of the Board of Examiners for Divinity degrees in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. As a prominent member of the Senate of the University of Toronto he did much in the way of moulding its present educational system.

In June, 1896, there was conferred upon him by the University of Toronto the degree of LL.D.; Professor Hutton taking the occasion thus to speak of him :—

“This is not the place, nor am I the person, to eulogize Dr. Sheraton’s work in his theological college. So far as that is concerned everyone who knows Dr. Sheraton knows that he is zealous in the cause of what he deems to be true religion, with a zeal not unworthy of that early master of Baliol, that uncompromising and fiery spirit concealed in a frail and emaciated frame, who is the hero eponymous and patron saint of Wycliffe College. But the University of Toronto knows another Dr. Sheraton, and it is the other Dr. Sheraton that it honors here to-day; the friend of university education in all its branches, the resolute member of Senate who has faced heavy responsibilities in the service of the university and has discharged those responsibilities at costs : in a word, the Churchman who has been not less zealous for useful learning than for sound religion.”

Dr. Sheraton was not merely a great teacher and successful administrator, but was also the author of various reviews and pamphlets, in all of which appear marks of his learning, industry and research. Some of these pamphlets were the following :—“The Ideal of the Church”; “The Christian Ministry”; “The Inspiration of the Scriptures”; “The Lambeth declaration about Church union”; an exposure of so-called Christian Science, and a masterly review of the fallacies, errors and hurtful tendencies of destructive Biblical Criticism. He was also for many years editor of the Evangelical Churchman and an able expositor of Sunday School lessons. At the time of his death he was engaged in enlarging and revising his booklet on “Our Lord’s teaching concerning Himself”, and in writing several articles for Hasting’s forthcoming “Dictionary of Christology”.

It is almost impossible to express in fitting terms the greatness of the debt owed by Wycliffe College and by evan-

gelical churchmen all over Canada to Dr. Sheraton's untiring zeal and devotion in the great cause for which Wycliffe was established. The personality of the College was the personality of the man, truly great in his real love and sympathy for the individual. A student himself, he fully realized the difficulties of the student and ever exercised a fatherly care over the household that could only solicit the love and devotion of its members. Much of the wonderful growth of the College may be traced to the influence of the man who was Principal from the time of its inception to the present day. His view of College life was that men might receive, in the spirit of Christ, an efficient training to carry on to victory the work of Christ and His Church, and no difficulty was left unsurmounted in the attaining to such an ideal. As a theologian, Wycliffe has received at the hands of her great teacher the unalloyed truth, whose influence, by the power of the Spirit, cannot but be effectual in the fields of her labors. His loss will be felt as irreparable by the Church at large, but by none so much as those who have been privileged to come into close contact with him.

In 1869 he married Margaret Wright. Their only son, William Sheraton, lived to attain the age of manhood, but was carried off by consumption about seven years ago. In 1875 he married the daughter of Douglas Stewart, barrister, of Newport, N.S., who survives him.

The large place occupied by Dr. Sheraton in the thoughts and hearts of his intimate friends and of those with whom he was brought in contact in connection with educational and other matters may well be gathered from the testimony of those best able to judge of his most estimable character and his great intellectual gifts and learning, as well as from the utterances of the leading daily journals, but more especially perhaps from the address of His Lordship the Bishop of Toronto at the funeral service in the Convocation Hall of Wycliffe College :—

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOP OF TORONTO

"With very sad feelings we gather here, dear brethren, this afternoon, in discharge of a solemn duty, to commit to the ground the

mortal remains of one whom we have loved and honored, and to pay the last tribute of affection and respect to his memory.

At the moment, the sense of loss, loss seemingly well-nigh irreparable, is paramount in our minds; loss fallen with a heavy blow and almost unexpected upon his family and friends, upon the great work of which he was the pillar and mainstay, upon the Church and Diocese of which he was a member, upon the whole community in which he was a felt power. It could not be otherwise when a sudden and final arrest has been placed upon so many activities which, for a long course of years, have wrought wide-spread good in all these spheres.

It is with Wycliffe College and its interests that the name and memory of Dr. Sheraton will always be inseparably identified. Assembled in this noble hall, we have before and around us the testimony to his success of his life's labour, the enduring fruit of his untiring zeal and administrative ability.

Nearly twenty-nine years ago, in those unhappy days of division and party strife in the Diocese, when the young New Brunswick divine, whose reputation as a deeply-read scholar had spread far a-field, was called by the leaders of the Evangelical movement in Toronto, from his Rectory to Pictou, to take charge of their newly-projected Protestant Episcopal Divinity School, it was indeed the day of small things. He found a class of two or three students meeting in a room of St. James' School House, as the nucleus of his future College.

To-day in these happier times, when strife and animosities in church councils have given place to frank, mutual recognition and cordial co-operation; when Evangelical truth and devotion, consistency and open-handed liberality have won their way to influence and weight in church government, Wycliffe College stands, a monument of God's blessing upon faithful labour, watered with prayer and attested by self-denying giving; a fully-equipped theological College with ample provision of Chapel, Library, Museum, and Convocation Hall, and a staff of well-learned instructors; affiliated for the Arts Course with the Provincial University; pointing to a roll of over 170 graduates ordained, many to the foreign mission field, the rest labouring in the various Dioceses in every part of the Dominion.

This is a splendid record of a man's life work and it is to be credited to the organizing talent, the enterprise and persistent energy, the strong personal influence and the indomitable faith of the late Principal, backed of course by the ever generous support of the men who had gauged his value and knew that they could place their whole trust in him.

The qualities, which enabled Dr. Sheraton to achieve these great results in less than 30 years, are well known to most of you. First, there was his profound learning as a theologian, which was an essential

element of fitness for the position which he occupied. I am able to give an opinion on this point from my close association with him for the last 15 years on the Board of Examiners for Divinity Degrees of the Provincial Synod. On this Board he has always occupied a leading and most active position. With the exception of Dr. Body, late Provost of Trinity College, he was the best Hebrew scholar among the members, and he exhibited the widest and most intimate acquaintance with the current theological literature of the day, both German and English. His reading must have been most wide and was always kept up-to-date.

One business of the Board is to put forth every five years a new syllabus of text-books and books of reference, and I cannot recall that Dr. Sheraton ever made use of his right to object to the placing of any book upon the list, however widely the views it advocated differed from his own. His scholarship, his judgment and his great industry will be sadly missed as a great loss to the work of the Board.

Another quality in our late Principal which was a large factor in his success, was his intense conviction of the truths which he held and taught. He *knew* what he believed, clearly and without hesitation. He had no doubts. Therefore what he taught had all the force of firm and unfaltering conviction. The Evangelical position which he thus held, he was able to maintain uncompromisingly. And all the movements most intimately connected with it—the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Society for the observance of the Lord's Day, the Church Missionary Society, he was able to espouse and advocate with a whole-hearted acquiescence which gave a convincing power to his energetic utterances.

Dr. Sheraton's personal qualities must not be left out of consideration in estimating the results of his work. He had a warm temperament, which had its outlet in his ardour as a controversialist, his energy in work, his intensity of purpose, and also revealed itself in an affectionate nature and the strength of his attachment to his friends.

Perhaps in his special position the quality which was most valuable in dealing with young men was the power of impressing upon them his own personality. His influence in this respect will be very lasting and wide-reaching in the large number who have passed out of the walls of Wycliffe into the ministry of the church and the strife of the world, stamped with the character which they imbibed from intercourse with its head. But after all we must recognize that the chief element which went to form the character of him we mourn to-day, and that which lies at the foundation of all that he was able to accomplish was his deep personal piety; his sure faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour; his acceptance of Him as his example and guide; his reliance upon the Holy Spirit and His continual help as teacher, sanctifier and enabler, and his daily close walk with God.

This was the secret spring from which flowed all the fertilizing life into his daily work.

Shall we then, brethren, with this retrospect before our minds, mourn for him, as with a sorrow that admits of no mitigation? Believing as we do in the unerring wisdom and unfailing goodness of our God who is the disposer of all things, can we not discern that according to His wiser purpose, our brother's work may have been done, the time for his rest and reward fully come. Shall we repine at His will or question His goodness? Surely it becomes us better to offer Him praise and thanksgiving, for all the gifts and graces bestowed upon His servant, for all the benefits flowing to His church through his labours, for the high example and inspiration of his consecrated life. It is a call to us to pray earnestly to Him that He will raise up a worthy successor to carry on to even greater results the work which he brought to such a degree of perfectness.

It is a call to us, who believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the everlasting, to rejoice on behalf of our departed brother, that for him the conflict is o'er and the victory won, the labour ended and the reward attained; that he has been admitted into the presence of the Lord whom he loved and served, to see Him in His glory and to receive from His lips the gracious commandation, "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

THE COUNCIL OF WYCLIFFE COLLEGE

The following letter of condolence from the Council of Wycliffe College was sent to Mrs. Sheraton, in addition to the numerous letters of sympathy which were received from individual members of the Council, Faculty and Students:—

"The Council of Wycliffe College desire to give expression to their deep and heartfelt sympathy with you in the sorrow which has so recently come to you. It is not upon you only that this great blow falls, but upon the whole Church both at home and abroad. The Council feel that they have lost a friend who was dear to them for his gentle courtesy and kindly heart, as well as one who toiled unremittingly and wisely for the spiritual and material welfare of the College, and who was an unflinching advocate and defender of evangelical truth.

They feel deeply grateful to God for bestowing upon him such gifts and graces that, after a Principalship of twenty-eight years, the College to-day, under Divine blessing, has risen to a degree of usefulness far beyond the anticipations of its founders. In almost every continent there are now earnest Christian men, who have come under Dr. Sheraton's influence and who have received instruction from him in the great truths of God's Word and the doctrines of His Church. To all of these, the tidings of his death will bring deep grief and the sense of a personal loss, which seems irreparable.

To the welfare of Wycliffe College and its students Dr. Sheraton devoted the best years of his life. And the graduates of Wycliffe now laboring in the sacred ministry in all quarters of the world are his "living epistles" in whom multitudes will read the truths he taught as well as something of his learning, his zeal and his devotion, and thus, in them, "he, being dead, yet speaketh." They do not forget, moreover, that you were ever at his side helping, c' eering and seconding him in all his work with an unselfish and untiring constancy equal to his own. This will be borne as a common sorrow. In this deep grief, however, they with you, rejoice together at the great work which, under God, Dr. Sheraton has been privileged to accomplish. His far-reaching influence will never cease to act and react upon the Church below and his life and labour give the assurance that he, who has now joined the Church above, will be counted worthy to be of the number of those faithful ones to whom the promise is given 'They that be teachers (margin) shall shine as the brightness of the firmament.'

"The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."

THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The Senate of the University of Toronto, on January 25th, passed the following resolution :—

"This Senate in special meeting assembled, desires to give expression to its sense of the loss which the University of Toronto, as a whole, no less than Wycliffe College in particular, has sustained by the death of James Paterson Sheraton, M.A., D.D., LL.D., for twenty-eight years Principal of Wycliffe College, and for the greater part of that time a member of this Senate. This is not the place for more than a passing mention of Dr. Sheraton's attainments in his chosen field of study—Theology. He was profoundly learned and he taught with whole-hearted devotion the truths which he deemed vital. His sympathies were broad, and his influence always made for unity among the various Christian bodies associated with the University of Toronto. When Dr. Caven, the head of the Theological School in the University of a sister church, died recently, Dr. Sheraton for a time taught in the place of his esteemed friend. The Senate records its appreciation of his unsparing labours and unflagging interest in University education, his courage in supporting the views that he held, his punctual attendance at all academic gatherings where the well-being of the University could be promoted. Recognizing that it will not be easy to fill the place of a leader so many-sided, and so devoted to his duties, the Senate can only express its sense of the loss which Wycliffe College has sustained. But the loss is more than that of Wycliffe College. While Dr. Sheraton showed learning and enthusiasm in the oldest

of the Faculties, Theology, he engaged too in unfeigned and unstinted cultivation of the younger and humbler, yet sister, Faculty of Arts, and on this side of the life of the University his presence will be greatly missed. To Mrs. Sheraton the Senate begs to offer the assurance of its deep sympathy in this crushing bereavement.

THE FACULTY OF KNOX COLLEGE

Dr. Sheraton was a man of wide sympathies, and counted among his many warm friends men of all classes and creeds. This feature of his character may well be illustrated by the following address of sympathy to Wycliffe College from a Sister College :—

“The Faculty of Knox College have learned with deep sorrow of the death of the Reverend Principal James Paterson Sheraton, D.D., LL.D., of Wycliffe College, and they desire to put on record their sense of the great loss sustained by Wycliffe College and by the Christian community, in the removal, in the midst of his usefulness, of one so eminent for his gifts and graces. Principal Sheraton brought to his work fine natural endowments, enriched by wide and varied culture, great loyalty to the truth and a spirit eminently catholic, humble and consecrated to Christ. His influence was so peculiarly happy and potent for good that his life was a benediction to all who came within the range of its power. His loss will be felt not only by the Institution to which he devoted himself with such untiring energy, but in almost all departments of united Christian and benevolent work, which found in him a ready helper. The Faculty recall at this time with special gratitude, Principal Sheraton’s kindness to Knox College, when, after the death of the late Principal Caven, he so readily came to their aid and rendered such valuable help to their weakened staff. They sympathize deeply with Wycliffe College in its great loss, and their prayer is that the Great Head of the Church may send it another man of similar gifts and spirit to build upon the foundations already laid. They venture also to express their deep sympathy with the widow in her great sorrow, and they pray that the God of All comfort may abundantly sustain her in her hour of trial.

The following articles appeared in the leading daily journals of Toronto the day after his death :—

THE DAILY GLOBE

“The death of Principal Sheraton entails a serious loss on all the forces making for the betterment of Canada. Wycliffe College, whose first Principal he was, and the Church of England in Canada, whose scholarship and power were enriched by his life, will, of course,

feel the loss most keenly. But the Provincial University, and a dozen organizations and enterprises of which he was a trusted friend and a constant helper, will share in that loss.

Dr. Sheraton was himself a student, and his true place was among students. He had exceptional mental gifts, and his intellectual attainments placed him in the forefront of Canadian scholars. His specialty was theology, but his range was wide and his interests many. As a New Testament scholar, and more especially in the department of systematic theology, he was an expert. His mind was open to the results of all sound scholarship, and he was too true to the spirit and ideal of the exact scholar to accept the notion that the last word on any great problem had been spoken or to adopt as final the unproved views given currency by some great scholar's name.

In matters of criticism Principal Sheraton was intelligently conservative. He kept himself abreast of modern movements, but his dogmatic bias steadied him in the eddying stream of Biblical criticism. In theology he was pronouncedly and unabashedly evangelical. His theological relationships were as close and confidential with men like the late Principal Caven as with any within the pale of his own Church. His ecclesiastical affinities were directed rather by his evangelical sympathies than by the bonds of creed or ritual.

In the councils of the University of Toronto Principal Sheraton held a place of high respect and influence. He stood staunchly for the integrity and independence of the Provincial University, and under his leadership Wycliffe College has grown to be one of the bulwarks of the State institution. His native modesty, the unobtrusiveness of his disposition, and his devotion to the heavy tasks of his academic work held Dr. Sheraton back from that prominence in the life of the community which his worth deserved, but in other ways, and especially through the lives and services of his students, he has made a notable and permanent contribution to what is best in the life alike of the State and of the Church."

THE MAIL AND EMPIRE

"The death of Principal Sheraton is a bereavement to Wycliffe College and a loss to the cause of church union. In the advance which three of the great religious bodies of this country have recently made towards a common organization he took no formal part, for the movement lay outside the Church of England, to which he belonged, but his life and teaching throughout the twenty-nine years of his administration of Wycliffe were a constant influence on the side of more perfect co-operation and more sympathetic understanding among the churches.

A divine without bigotry, a scholar without pedantry, a professor of dogmatics without dogmatism, he was a model head of an insti-

tution established as a nursery of evangelical churchmanship. Gentleness and energy, two qualities rarely occurring together in the same personality, he possessed in a remarkable degree. However otherwise the head of Wycliffe College might have been gifted, had he lacked either of these elements of character, or had he not embodied both of them, the institution could not have been raised in less than thirty years to the place it holds to-day. Great difficulties had to be overcome, for to the majority of English Churchmen the new College could not but seem an intruder upon the domain that belonged to Trinity University, whose claims upon Episcopalian left little to spare for a rival school of theology. For other reasons, too, the college was regarded with something like hostility. In any circumstances, the head of any important seat of learning ought to be a man of force, and there are situations in which his force should manifest itself as aggressiveness, even if he is a minister of the Church. But it was not to such a situation that Dr. Sheraton was called when he was urged to become Principal of Wycliffe. The great energy required in that office was to exhibit itself largely as patience and gentleness, not in the polemical form that might possibly be fitting in some other positions. And these virtues of Dr. Sheraton have been very triumphant. Not only have they served to conduct Wycliffe thus far forward on her successful career, but they have contributed to the gradual obliteration of the line of division within the Church of England in Canada. Instead of more widely sundering the two shades of opinion within the church as it was feared he might do, Principal Sheraton has helped Church of England men to forget that there ever was any serious cleavage. By his fellowship with the clergy of other churches, and his help in joint work of the churches, he did something to deepen the sense of our common Christianity, and thus facilitate union."

HON. S. H. BLAKE, K.C.

Hon. S. H. Blake, K.C., one of the founders of Wycliffe College, and its most generous supporter, thus spoke of his friend :—

"It is about thirty years since those interested in theological teaching in the Church of England in Ontario were informed that there lived in a small town in the Dominion one of the best theologians of our Church, and that we should keep our eyes upon him when an opportunity was opened for the head of a theological college. This was Rev. J. P. Sheraton. Not long afterwards the door was opened and an application was made to him to accept of the headship of a school which afterwards became Wycliffe College. So great was his humility that it required much persuasion to even obtain from him a promise to think over the subject. He came to us, and we were

not disappointed in him. It was marvellous to most, if not all of us, to find the extent and accuracy of his learning. He had grasped with wonderful fixedness the great principles of the Reformed Church of England. He was a man beautiful in his simplicity of thought, and manner of life, full of faith, with a complete reliance on the finished work of his Saviour, and all that flowed from this he gladly accepted as his own. He began with a couple of students, and through his hands have now passed over 170 clergymen of our Church, and between 50 and 60 students were under him as Principal at the day of his death. With him the Bible was the Bible, the Word of God, and all his reading and search among the higher critics simply resolved his mind into a more complete grasp of the great truth of the inspiration of the Word of the Lord which remaineth forever. Those who had the privilege of his friendship knew him well as a man of deep sympathy, of a loving and most trustful nature and disposition, childlike, but as true as steel. I have often compared him with the late Principal Caven, and while I thought that Principal Caven was the foremost man as a theologian in the Presbyterian Church, I consider that the Rev. Principal Sheraton occupied the same place in the Church of England. We all feel very desolate in the loss of so dear a friend."

DR. N. W. HOYLES, K.C.

Dr. N. W. Hoyles, K.C., Chairman of the Council of Wycliffe College, thus spoke of the loss the College had sustained :—

"The death of Dr. Sheraton is a great loss, not only to Wycliffe College, the great success of which is, under God, principally owing to him, but also to the Church of England in Canada, and to the larger Church of Christ throughout our Dominion. He was a man of wide and deep scholarship, an earnest student, versed in all the theological literature of the day, and yet a man of modest and unobtrusive personality. With all his scholarship and great ability he was a simple and sincere believer in the Lord Jesus, and was profoundly impressed with the importance of the foundation truths of evangelical Christianity, unshaken in his allegiance to God's Word and in his respect for God's day. Moreover, he was a man of broad sympathies, able from the heart to appreciate and respect the views of the different denominations holding the fundamental evangelical truths of Christianity."

PRESIDENT LOUDON OF TORONTO UNIVERSITY

President Loudon of the University of Toronto, who spoke as the head of the University and who knew of Dr. Sheraton's work in the cause of education, said :—

"Everyone must feel that, by the death of Rev. Dr. Sheraton, which has come upon us with such startling suddenness, the Provincial University has lost a true and consistent friend, and the Faculty and Senate an able and energetic colleague. My acquaintance with him dates back to the establishment of Wycliffe College, and preceded the passage of the University Federation Act. He was an active and useful member of the Federation Conference, and contributed much to the shaping of the Federation movement. Wycliffe College was among the first to enter Federation, and its support has been of great assistance to the cause of University Education in Ontario. Principal Sheraton, as head of the College, was a member of the University Senate since 1885, and in that capacity, at great personal sacrifice, attended most closely to the business of the Senate, taking special interest in the progress of the arts and medical faculties. He was always in his place at meetings of Senate or of Committees, in which most of the work is done, and his absence will be severely felt by those on whose shoulders falls the burden of university administration. It must be a great cause of gratification to the deceased principal's friends, and to the Church in which he was so prominent, that Wycliffe College has made such steady progress under his administration, which dates from the inception of the College. I should like to add a word expressing my appreciation of his personal character. No one was bolder and more determined in public as the champion of a cause, and no one in private life more gentle, unassuming, and amiable. Above all things he was distinguished by his unwavering honesty of purpose and his intense enthusiasm for the cause of right."

THE CANADIAN CHURCHMAN

The following are extracts from a leading article in the Canadian Churchman :—

"Churchmen of all shades of thought and Canadians of all creeds feel that a great scholar and religious leader has passed away in the person of the late Principal of Wycliffe College. His death at the age of sixty-four, when to ordinary view he was still in the fulness of his powers, has come as a shock to thousands, and calls forth an expression of sincere sympathy with his wife and closest friends.

When Wycliffe College was established in 1877 Dr. Sheraton was invited to become the first principal, and in this connection he has done his lifework. Into his college he threw himself heart and soul, identifying himself with every phase of its development, and living to see it become one of the largest and best-equipped theological seminaries in the Canadian Church. The head of a College renders his best and most lasting service by moulding the men who go out into the active work of the Christian ministry, and Dr. Sheraton's truest monument is to be found in the lives and activities of those

he has trained. This is his real contribution to the higher life of both Church and State in Canada. Pre-eminently he was a student and teacher. In his theological views he was profoundly evangelical. His study of the Holy Scriptures, of Church history, and of the English Reformation led him to this conclusion. Few men in Canada were so widely read as he. He was a master of the voluminous literature of the Reformation, of the wide field of systematic theology, and of New Testament introduction and interpretation. In fact, there was scarcely a department of theology in which he was not at home—in touch with the best works on the subject, past and present. Nor were his intellectual interests confined to theology; his outlook lay over still wider regions, more particularly biology and classical literature. His colleagues on the Board of Examiners for Divinity degrees bear testimony to his invaluable services in outlining the curriculum and in the choice of text books and books of reference. He seemed a walking theological encyclopædia. His mind was logical and analytical, and few could equal him in presenting a subject, however abstruse, with lucidity and power. He wielded a trenchant and ready pen. For years he edited the "Evangelical Churchman," and those who disagreed with his views were always ready to admit the force with which he urged them. It is greatly to be regretted that the pressure of academic and kindred work rendered it impossible for Principal Sheraton to make the contributions to theological literature which he was so abundantly able to do. In the tangled forest of Biblical Criticism Dr. Sheraton was intelligently conservative. He read all sides of the question, shirked no difficulties, was abashed by no mere weight of name, and held firmly and finally to the supreme authority of Holy Scripture as the Word of God. His strong grip of dogmatic theology guided and steadied him amid the subjective eddies of criticism. He took keen interest in Synod matters, frequently spoke on the floor of the House, and served on many committees.

Outside his college work his greatest sphere of influence was the Provincial University. He was one of the most prominent members of the University Senate. He sat on the University Federation Committee, whose labours have issued in the present federated and composite institution; and throughout his principalship he has been an untiring attendant at all University councils and committees. His loss will be keenly felt in the world of higher education in the Province. He was a man of broadest ecclesiastical sympathies, and supported all such general religious undertakings as the Bible and Tract Societies, the Lord's Day Alliance, and the Evangelical Alliance. Few men were more beloved outside the bounds of his own communion. He was modest and retiring in disposition, sensitive and almost shy, a man of deep conviction and strong spirituality, of kindest heart and most helpful hand, as generations of students have good cause to

remember. In the presence of the great leveller, Death, differences of intellectual opinion shrink into small proportions, and the gifts and graces of character show their abiding worth, and are gladly acknowledged. Churchmen throughout the Dominion unite in paying a tribute to the memory of one of our greatest scholars and most outstanding personalities. He rests from his labours, and his works do follow him."

ONTARIO LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE

The following are extracts from a letter from the Secretary of the Alliance :—

"A noble, devoted, earnest Christian; a cultured, honored, Christ-loving minister; a Christ-like, sincere, helpful brother; a profound scholar, successful teacher, and masterful Principal; and withal, a man who had the respect of all citizens,—a citizen deeply interested in every project calculated to enoble the character of the people, and ever ready to give his practical assistance and helpful counsel to every good cause—he will be much missed by his own Church, and all others, as well as by the City of Toronto and Province of Ontario."

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

At a meeting of the Toronto Diocesan Branch the following resolution was passed :—

Moved by Mrs. Cummings, seconded by Miss Cartwright,

Resolved—“That the Officers and Members of this Diocesan Board unite in expressing their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Sheraton in the sorrow which has come to her in the death of her husband, the Rev. Canon Sheraton, whose earnest Christian life, and devotion to the best interests of the young men who were under his care has been an example and incentive to them, and an influence for good in the whole Church, the lasting benefit of which cannot be estimated.”

There was a funeral service for the immediate friends of the late Principal at his house, followed by a public service in the Convocation Hall of Wycliffe College, conducted by the Bishop of Toronto, assisted by other clergymen of the Church of England; there being also present on the platform prominent representatives of other denominations.

